

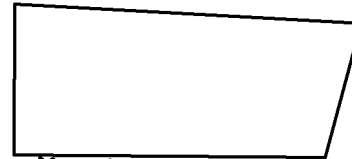
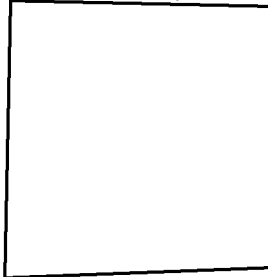
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18 June 1959

STAFF MEETING MINUTES - 16 June 1959

PERSONNEL PRESENT - Mr. Bissell
Col. Burke



Mr. Cunningham
Col. Geary



Mr. Kiefer

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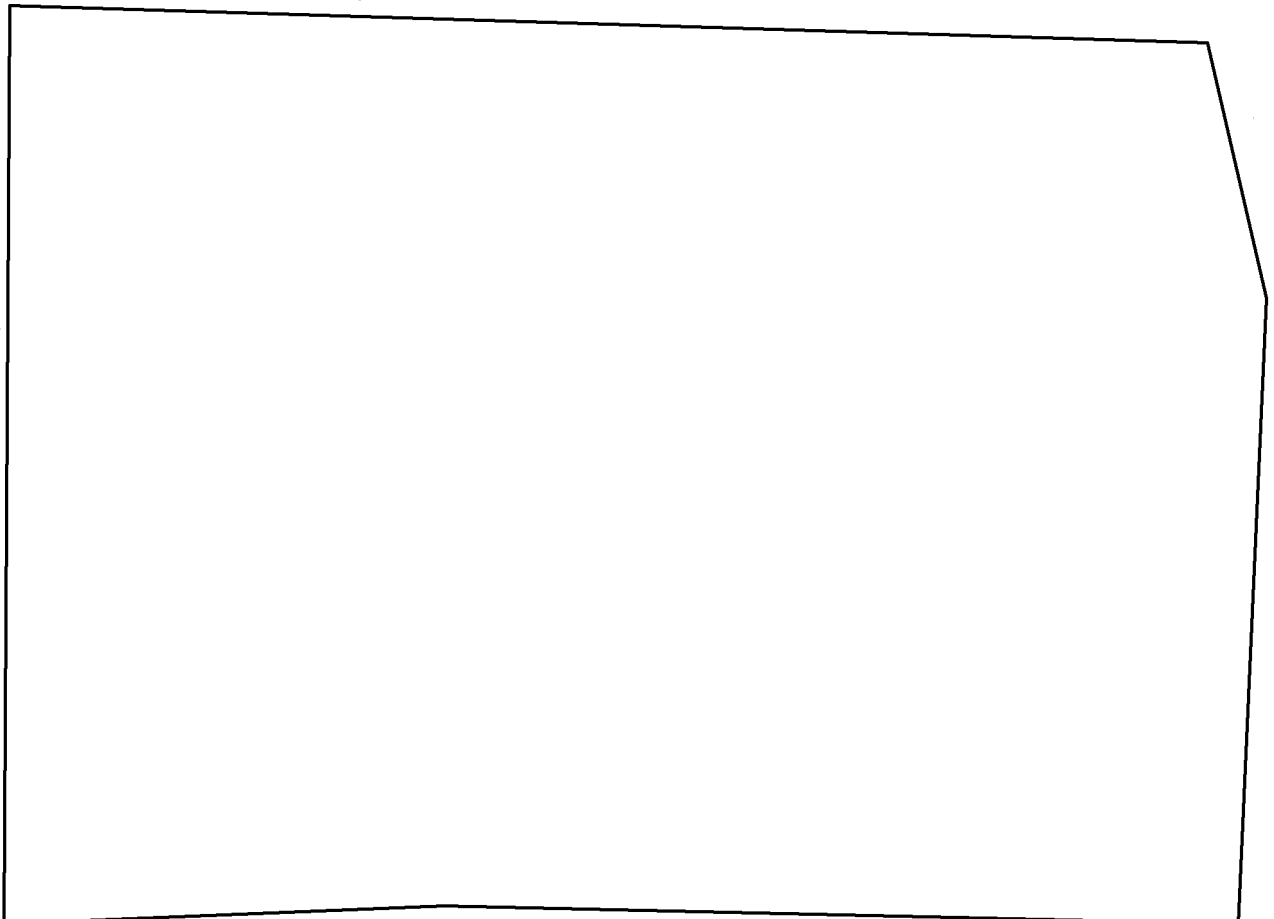
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1. FAR EAST SURVEY STATUS - [redacted] reported that the team study had been submitted to DPD Staff and FE Division. A meeting with FE Division will take place on 17 June and agreed upon recommendations submitted to the DD/P.

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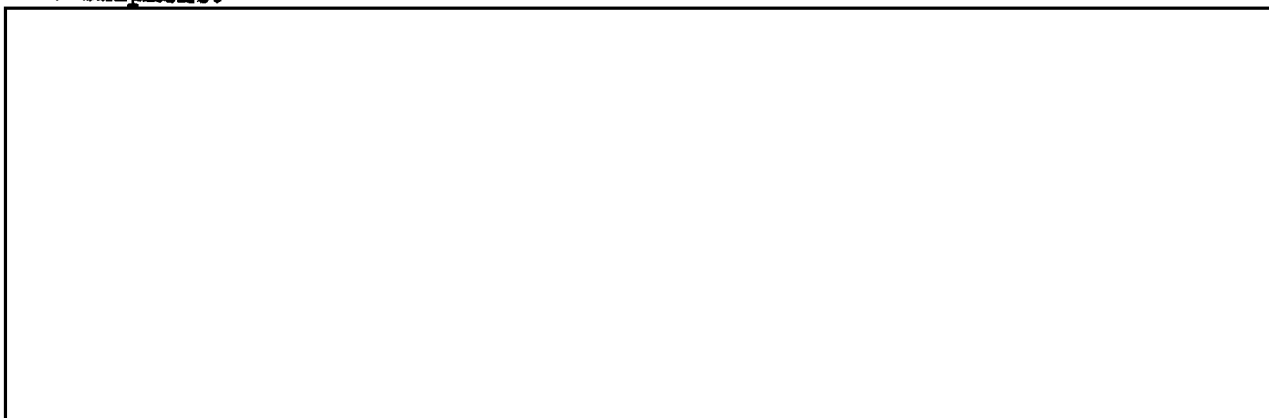


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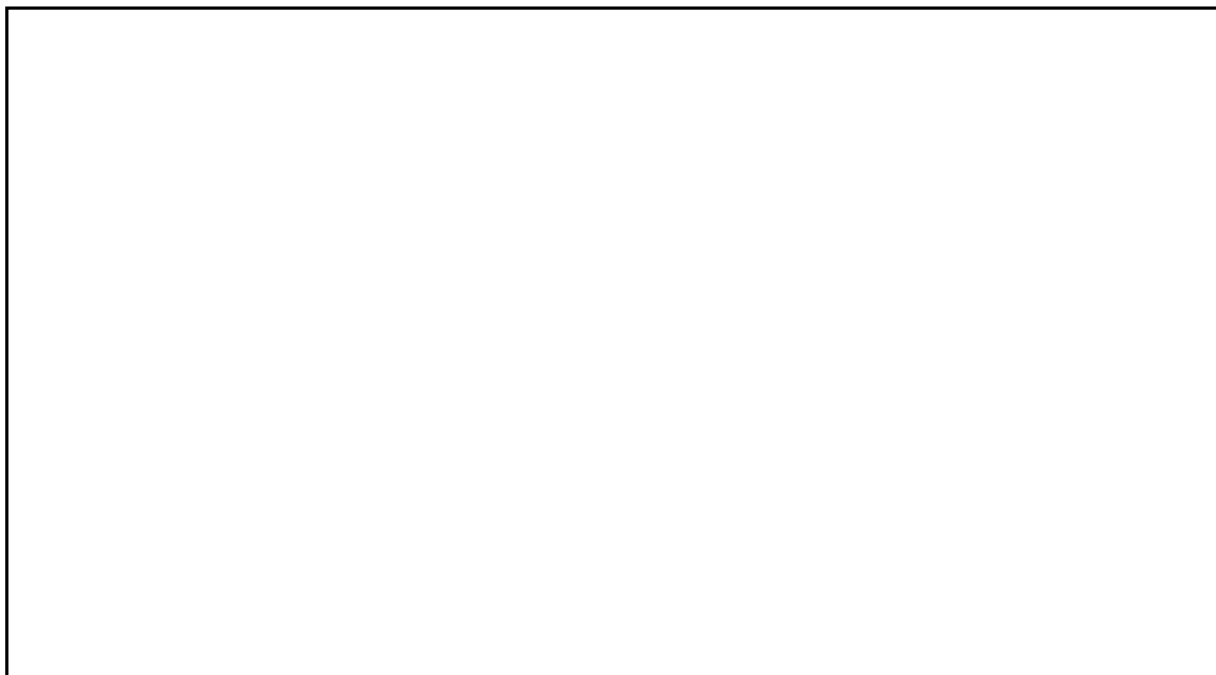
4. MALFUNCTION REPORT - Inspections have been reinstituted to have a realistic shelf-life supply system. Malfunctions in recent reports were principally motors and trackers. The trackers have been ordered back for check and new motors issued. A program has been initiated under which all motors are being inspected by LAC prior to shipment.

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6. BUDGET - [redacted] reported that the FY '60 & '61 Budgets will be ready for review by DD/P 17 June. A request was made by Mr. Bissell for a complete study of the proposal [redacted] based on the premise that we must prove a good case to BOB in September to justify the expenditure.

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8. CORONA - VEDAS - Mr. Bissell announced that an agreement was reached 15 June that Project VEDAS would be carried forward under the management of CIA, and that the VEDAS shots would be treated as additional efforts in the DISCOVERER series. This decision was made at a meeting attended by Mr. Bissell, in Mr. Roy Johnson's office. Present were: Dr. Golovan, Messrs. Godel, Gise, from ARPA and Dr. Bruce Billings of Dr. York's office. The VEDAS program will be organized and managed

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substantially on the pattern of CORONA with two exceptions, these are: (1) that technical management would be a joint responsibility of ARPA and DPD/CIA and (2) that the Army would be regarded as the primary, but not exclusive, customer. There will be four reconnaissance satellite shots, plus recovery, planned in the VEDAS mapping program. The group also decided that the security of VEDAS would be controlled by DPD/CIA. The plan now is to cancel VEDAS overtly as it now exists, at which point we will pick it up in the framework of our black contracts. In discussing the exceptions above, Mr. Bissell said he assumed we would look to BMD for procurement of the first and second-stage vehicle. There will be no Army procurement Agency involvement. In this connection, Army will have a voice in systems diffusion but we will have the same responsibility and authority as in the CORONA program.

9. APPROVAL FOR CORONA FLIGHT V - Mr. Bissell is confident that this will be granted. In this connection, he requested that if a change is made in scheduled date of a shot, he would like to be informed as rapidly as possible with a full explanation for the delay.

ACTION: Development Branch

staff mtg -16 June 1959

10. STATUS OF GUSTO - The Boston meeting did not result in a decision regarding the two vehicles. It was agreed that from an operational viewpoint the A-11 with its 4100 nautical mile range, and increased altitude capability, was highly desirable. Other features are its ability to use a short field for take-off and a common fuel. It also has the advantage of unassisted take off. Its major draw back is that it will be constantly tracked. The Convair vehicle, being a staged type, has this built-in draw back; on the other hand, there is more possibility of flying missions undetected than with the A-11 as presently designed. Basically, the technical experts at Boston on the panel were concerned only with aircraft perfection and radar cross section and not operational use. The meeting came to one conclusion and that was the sporadic detection and tracking by radar must be expected regardless of vehicle.

On 17 June, Mr. Bissell will meet with General Holzapple and General Demler to finalize the Air Force and CIA position on the two vehicles. Out of this meeting will come the recommendations that each will make to DCI and Chief of the Air Force.

11. OTHER ITEMS - TRAILERS AT DETACHMENT B - Mr. Bissell queried whether the twenty additional planned for Base B could be readily justified. Col. Burke, with the concurrence of Admn, Security and Materiel assured him that the expenditure could be readily justified.

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CONCUR:

WILLIAM BURKE
Colonel, USAF
Acting Chief, DPD

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